

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
AUSTIN DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

GREG ABBOTT, in his capacity as
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS,
and THE STATE OF TEXAS,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:23-cv-00853-DAE

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Pursuant to this Court's March 27, 2025, Order (Dkt. No. 273), the parties hereby submit this joint status report.

1. On February 7, 2025, this Court placed this matter in abeyance to afford the new federal administration time to assess this matter. Dkt. No. 267.
2. On March 27, 2025, this Court continued the abeyance of this matter until further notice of the Court, with a status report due 45 days from the order. Dkt. No. 273.
3. Since the Court's March 27, 2025, order, both parties have been working diligently to determine next steps in this matter.
4. As the parties have been working, however, new political leadership—including a new Deputy Assistant Attorney General over the section of the Department of Justice Environment and Natural Resources Division litigating this case—has been appointed at the Department of Justice. Additionally, new leadership has been appointed and is in the process of being appointed at federal client agencies.

5. Undersigned counsel for the United States and their counterparts in the federal client agencies have been briefing the new administration on this matter, including potential next steps.

6. The United States needs additional time to complete these briefings and decide how it believes this case should proceed.

7. Accordingly, the United States asserts this matter should remain in abeyance.

8. Texas does not oppose the continued abeyance of this matter. In view of the parties' current and ongoing active cooperation in defense of the southwestern border of the United States and Texas, Texas is hopeful that this additional time may make it possible to resolve this case by agreement, without further discovery or a trial.

9. The parties will submit their next status report within 45 days.

Dated: May 12, 2025

Respectfully submitted.

MARGARET F. LEACHMAN
ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

ADAM R.F. GUSTAFSON
ACTING ASST. ATTORNEY GENERAL
Environment & Natural Resources Division

/s/ Landon A. Wade
LANDON A. WADE
Assistant United States Attorney
Texas Bar No. 24098560
United States Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas
903 San Jacinto Blvd., Suite 334
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 370-1255 (tel)
(512) 916-5854 (fax)
Landon.wade@usdoj.gov

/s/ Kimere J. Kimball
KIMERE J. KIMBALL
Trial Attorney
CA Bar No. 260660
ANDREW D. KNUDSEN
Trial Attorney
DC Bar No. 1019697
BRYAN J. HARRISON
Trial Attorney
FL Bar No. 106379
U.S.D.O.J./ENRD
P.O. Box 7611
Washington, DC 20044
(202) 514-2285 (Kimball)
(202) 514-8865 (fax)
Kimere.kimball@usdoj.gov
Andrew.knudsen@usdoj.gov
Bryan.harrison@usdoj.gov
Counsel for the United States of America

KEN PAXTON
Attorney General of the State of Texas

BRENT WEBSTER
First Assistant Attorney General

RALPH MOLINA
Deputy First Assistant Attorney General

RYAN D. WALTERS
Deputy Attorney General for Legal
Strategy

RYAN G. KERCHER
Chief, Special Litigation Division

/s/ David Bryant
DAVID BRYANT
Senior Special Counsel
Tex. State Bar No. 03281500

JOHNATHAN STONE
Chief, Consumer Protection Division
Tex. State Bar No. 24071779

MUNERA AL-FUHAID
Special Counsel
Tex. State Bar No. 24094501

ZACHARY BERG
Special Counsel
Tex. State Bar No. 24107706

KYLE S. TEBO
Special Counsel
Tex. State Bar No. 24137691

MARK A. CSOROS
Assistant Attorney General
Tex. State Bar No. 24142814

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
P. O. Box 12548, MC-009
Austin, TX 78711-2548
(512) 936-2172
ryan.kercher@oag.texas.gov
david.bryant@oag.texas.gov
johnathan.stone@oag.texas.gov
munera.al-fuhaid@oag.texas.gov
zachary.berg@oag.texas.gov
kyle.tebo@oag.texas.gov
mark.csoros@oag.texas.gov

Counsel for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on May 12, 2025, a copy of this filing was served on counsel of record through the Court's electronic filing system.

/s/ Kimere J. Kimball
KIMERE J. KIMBALL